

Story Keeper – by Ken Granderson

Preserving Culture and History through Advanced Mobile Technology



Story Keeper captures and preserves the oral histories of historically silenced populations, using the latest in mobile tech, speech-to-text, and AI-powered analysis.

Overview

Story Keeper is founded on one simple, but potentially history-saving idea:

If we use today's technologies to capture and preserve the testimonies of witnesses to significant cultural events and keepers of oral histories that only reside in the minds of elderly knowers, we can prevent irreplaceable knowledge from being lost to the human race, forever.

- Ken Granderson

Inspired by my three decades of creating culturally impactful software, Story Keeper leverages mobile technologies and AI to make it easy and simple to record and honor the stories of communities who have lived through history. StoryKeeper can save knowledge from groups like elderly Black Americans with firsthand knowledge of the Jim Crow era to Native American elders and ensure that these critical voices are safeguarded for future generations.

By simply having a conversation with Nana or Pop, StoryKeeper allows anyone with a smartphone to record conversations that can create lasting connections through history, language, and personal experience.

Application Features

1. **Easy Mobile Capture:** Story Keeper uses mobile devices to record and store audio from cultural elders and community members, preserving voices and narratives in an accessible format.
2. **Instant Transcription and AI Analysis:** Through instant speech-to-text technology and advanced AI, Story Keeper transcribes and analyzes these stories, creating connections across generations and communities.
3. **Data Integration with BlackFacts Ecosystem:** As part of BlackFacts content aggregation, classification and syndication platform Timbuktu™ which powers <https://blackfacts.com> and <https://diversityschoolhouse.com>, StoryKeeper will be able to seamlessly integrate with our existing public-facing and ed-tech platforms, making these stories available to national or global audiences.

Long-Term Vision

Accessible and Licensed Technology: As with all of my creations, StoryKeeper is being architected as modules that communicate via standard protocols, positioning them not only for individual use but also for potential partnerships with institutions focused on ancestry, education, and cultural preservation. In the spirit of public good, we envision Story Keeper as a tool that may also be licensed to researchers and educational platforms, supporting an enduring legacy for at-risk narratives.

Funding Goals

- **Startup Funding:** To bring StoryKeeper to fruition, I am seeking \$350,000 to cover development and operational costs over the next six months. This funding will enable me to build a full suite of features, from mobile audio capture to advanced AI-driven data analysis, ensuring StoryKeeper's impact on communities across the country.
- **Operational Funding:** Following launch, StoryKeeper will need a small team to research, identify, contact and follow up on a sustained basis with various academic, public and private stakeholders in the idea of preserving timeless stories of historically silenced communities via technology. The costs and timelines of this effort are to be determined. This one-pager focuses on securing initial funding to ensure that there is something real to deliver to those stakeholders in the future.

Current Status

Story Keeper is currently in its planning phase, with early development focused on creating a seamless mobile experience for users. This initial version will provide full audio recording and transcription, with later phases adding AI-driven connections across historical narratives, languages, and cultures. You can watch a short overview of StoryKeeper at this link: <https://links.blackfacts.com/storykeeper>

Thank you for considering support for Story Keeper and its mission to preserve the voices of those who have shaped our history.

– Ken Granderson



FROM THE MIND OF KEN GRANDERSON – <https://kengranderson.com>

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